

THE CURAÇAO GAZETTE.

AND COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER.

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[Price Eight Dollars Annually.]

The pleasure that most people experience in the perusal of a Newspaper, principally arises from the knowledge of the multifarious transactions of the political military, literary, and mercantile world.

Our fancy can hardly enter into a more interesting subject, than to trace the progress of an army through all the vicissitudes of a campaign, or to view the intrepid and hardy mariner following the foes of his country, on the furious billows of the boundless ocean, or blockading them in their own ports with invincible patience, and inexhaustible spirits.

To no person is it of greater importance to learn the posture of affairs at home and abroad, than to the Merchant—he finds it his interest to know where he can acquire such articles of Commerce as may best answer his speculations, and at what market he can vend, at the highest price, such as he possesses. The Politician must hold it essentially necessary to ascertain the modes of government in different quarters of the globe; the resources of a country, its strength, funds, and every thing calculated to carry on a war.

However, it is not the lot of every one to be a Merchant, or a Politician; but this prevents not the utility of possessing and gaining a part of that knowledge so essential to the one and the other; it must generally be derived from the same source, (a Newspaper), and it yields nearly an equal share of satisfaction to all.

The perusal of political and commercial publications, tends to enlighten the understanding, and enlarge its conception, and banishes that narrowness of intellect, by which those are distinguished, whose ideas have never extended beyond the limits of their own business.

The ground-work of this Paper is to calumniate or injure, directly, or indirectly, no person whatever. If folly and vice be sometimes lashed, it shall be done in such a manner as to prove derogatory to no society or individual. Ample encouragement is holden out to every one, who may think proper, to have promulgated any useful and public intelligence, and whoever may be disposed to communicate any such to the Editor, shall meet with unreserved attention.

The object of the Printer is centered in the hope of acquiring the good-will of the Public, and particularly his Subscribers, and all those who may favor him with employment; for the attainment of which end, every requisite in his line is now at hand, to accomplish with expedition and care the requests of the Public.

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Curaçao, Dec. 11.

LONDON GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY.

DOWNING-STREET, SEPTEMBER 4.

Major Burgh, Aid-de-Camp to the Marquis Wellington, has this day arrived at Lord Bathurst's Office, with dispatches, addressed to his Lordship by Lord Wellington, dated Madrid, the 13th and 15th ultimo, of which the following are extracts:

Madrid, August 13.

Having found that the army under Marshall Marmont continued their retreat upon Burgos, in a state not likely to take the field again for some time, I determined to bring Joseph Bonaparte to a general action, or to force him to quit Madrid.

Accordingly I moved from Cuellar on the 6th instant. We arrived at Segovia on the 7th, and at St. Ildefonso on the 8th, where I halted one day, to allow the right of the army more time to come up.

No opposition was made to the passage of the troops through the mountains; and Brigadier-Gen. D'Urban, with the Portuguese cavalry, and first light battalion of the King's German Legion, and Captain M'Donald's troop of horse artillery, had been through the Guadarama pass since the 9th. He moved forward on the morning of the 11th from the neighbourhood of the Calapagus, and supported by the heavy cavalry of the King's German Legion from Torrelodonos, he drove in the French cavalry, about 2000 in number, and placed himself at Majalahondo, with the Portuguese cavalry, and Capt. M'Donald's troop, and the cavalry and light infantry of the King's German Legion at Las Royas, about three-quarters of a mile distant.

The enemy's cavalry, which had been driven off in the morning, and had moved towards Naval Carnero, returned about five in the afternoon, and Brigadier-General D'Urban having formed the Portuguese cavalry in front of Majalahonda, supported by the horse artillery, ordered his cavalry to charge the enemy's leading squadrons, which appeared too far advanced to be supported by their main body. The Portuguese cavalry advanced to the attack, but unfortunately turned about before they reached the enemy; and they fled through the village of Majalahonda, and back upon the German dragoons; leaving behind them, unprotected and unsupported, those guns of Captain M'Donald's troop, which had been moved forward to co-operate with the cavalry. By the activity of the officers and soldiers of Captain M'Donald's troop, the guns were, however, moved off; but owing to the unfavorable nature of the ground over which they were moved, the carriage of one was broken, and the others were overturned; and these three guns fell into the enemy's hands.

intelligence changed the commander in chief's first plan, and determined him, instead of giving battle in the vicinity of Witepsk to march towards Smolensk, and so much the more, as M. Davoust could take his march thither with his whole force, and by the same road. He took this bold determination at the very moment when the rear-guard was engaged in the hottest fight—he manœuvred in the face of the enemy, and drew himself back in three columns. The Commander in Chief attributes the good effect of this undertaking chiefly to the admirable disposition of Count Von Pahlen, who by covering the army, has on this occasion shewn proof of every thing that can be produced by skill and the art of war. Our troops have given wonderful proof of courage; they have taken advantage of every position; the borders of the small river Luthepg were defended with such obstinacy, that the enemy lost a number of men in killed. General Von Pahlen likewise understood how to render the smallest defile of utility, and an ambush was laid in a suitable place in the vicinity round Gaponowschlochesna, has, on the march of the 17th cut seven French squadrons.

This day the 2d and 3d columns have joined at Poritschye; the first which goes over Lisna and Rudna covers their march; General Platow, who is only at the distance of two days march, has received orders to draw up his corps in the front of Smolinsko, in order the operations of the first army. Prince Bagration, on his side, is pushing fast forward towards Smolinsko. According to accounts from Lieut-Gen. Count Wittgenstein, he still continues to hold himself at Drissa he states that Major-general Kilnew, who was sent to the other side of the Dwina, has attacked the French and made 700 prisoners.

OFFICIAL, FROM KOBRIN, July 15 (28)

"I have the honour to congratulate your Imperial Majesty on the total defeat and taking of the whole Saxon corps prisoners, who had occupied Kobrin, and defended it nine hours on the 15th (27th) of July. The trophies of this victory are eight pieces of cannon, and a great number of arms. Among the prisoners are the commander of the corps M. Klingel, three Colonels, six Staff Officers, fifty-seven Officers, 2234 men: above 1000 men left dead on the field. The loss on our side is inconsiderable. The Saxon corps, under the French Gen. Regnier, marches from Slonin. The first corps was here. Prince Schwartzbergh marches through Sluzk to Minsk".

ACCOUNTS FROM RIGA OF THE 9th.—FROM THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN.

"General Barclay De Tolli Prince Bagration had joined at Smolensk. The third army, under General Tomasoff defeated a Saxon corps at Kobrin took four standards, eight pieces of cannon, and made prisoners General Klinoel, 70 Officers and 3000 men. General Platoff, commanding the advanced guard of General De Tolli's army, had daily skirmishes, which had always proved favourable to the Russian arms.

"The army employed in Turkey had reached the province of Volhynia. It was reported by the deserters, that Bonaparte was not up to the army. The Austrians remain quiet, and are said to be greatly discontented with the interference of the French in re-establishing the kingdom of Poland.

"Moscow had contributed towards the war 3,000,000 of silver rubles and 100,000 men equipped. At St. Petersburg immense subscriptions were making, and 70,000 men were their organizing. The enthusiastic patriotism of all ranks to Old Russia, in succouring the army, is beyond description."

The following is the Ukase issued by the Emperor of Russia upon the restoration of peace between his empire and Great Britain:—

"Ukase of his Imperial Majesty, Autocrat, of all the Russias, &c. &c.

"The Senate declares as follows:

"The desirable peace which has been negotiated between Russia and Great Britain has at length been accomplished; and we have taken the earliest opportunity of announcing to our faithful people this happy event, and even before the formal ratification has been received.

"Pursuant to the conditions of this arrangement, we hereby order, that from the present date, all our ports and harbours in the Baltic, the White and Black Sea, and the Sea of Alaph with all other our ports and harbours, wheresoever they may be situated, are open to the flag of His Britannic Majesty; and the trade shall be conducted between the Empire and Great Britain, according to the system adopted under the existing regulations.

"The Senate has thought fit to communicate this acceptable intelligence in the present Ukase, that it may be known to all; and it is hereby witnessed by our Public Seal, the 5th (17) day of August, 1812."

SPANISH PAPERS.

In Seville 3000 waggons have been ordered to be collected; the indication which the French give of their intention of abolishing the Andalusain nunneries.

August, 17. — The English entered Madrid on the 11th. Joseph, with his fugitive Court, was at Cuenca. The combined expedition from the Mediterranean has in number 14,000 men effected its disembarkation in Alicante. We are assured of our having taking an American ship with 6000 muskets, bound for Caracas.

CURACAO, December 11, 1812,

The unfortunate capture of the November Packet, has confined our extracts principally to the latest papers received from England, and we have been obligingly favored with a file down to the 17th September, from which we have given the most interesting information.

The grand spectacle of European warfare, the unnatural and impolitical hostility between England and America, the stagnancy of commerce, mordacious famine sternly threatening around, and all the grim and unwelcome train of those consequences attendant on the revolutions of conflicting nations, call forth the special and serious consideration, interest, and sensibility of every reflective mind.

The last brilliant and inestimable victory gained by the glorious arms of the immortal Wellington, electrifies with inexpressible delight the friends to the success of the British, Spanish and Portuguese arms. Those signal defeats which the French have so frequently encountered in the Peninsula, and their being compelled to retreat before the blaze of British fire, leaves no room to doubt that they will be soon completely driven out of Spain, and totally unable again to contend with British prowess and discipline. It appears very probable, that on the Continent they have also encountered more disasters. From all these facts there can be deduced no other conclusion than, that Bonaparte is now balancing upon the pivot of his well-merited destiny.

How supremely happy must be the result of the subversion of the French arms, and the humiliation of the power of France. Commerce, the hand-maid of prosperity to mankind, shall then flourish with tenfold efficacy, than shall the nations of the earth enjoy once more the greatest and most blissful boon of nature, peace!—then shall canticles of jubilation commemorate, in universal harmony, the overthrow of one of the veriest vicegerents of Nero, Tiberius, and Caligula in their characteristic acts of cruelty, usurpation, outrage, infamy, and atrocity, that ever lived. It is a true assertion of Dean Kirwan, "That when the great fall, they fall not by themselves, but bring thousands along with them." This will be well applied to Bonaparte, for if he fall, the whole Empire of France and her wretched dependencies, will feel the dreadful shock—and probably we shall yet bear witness to a more dreadful and extended revolution in France than has hitherto transpired.

From the identity of the people of England, and those of the United States, it must be evident to every thinking and judicious person, that it is the genuine interest and policy of the two Countries, to be on the most unshaken terms of peace and friendship. Whilst these great cements of felicity are kept alive between them, they can with impunity bid defiance to all the belligerent powers of the earth to injure them in any way whatever; and this would be the surest mode of eternally ruining the boastful majesty of the French Empire. Bonaparte would soon be compelled, by this alliance, to yield obsequious compliance, and no longer would he dare to confront and insult any nation on the globe, whilst England and America remained firmly amicable and allied.

MERCANTILE RELATIONS.

Arrivals in the Port of Curaçao since the 28 ultimo.

The English schooner, Jolly Tar, Aufan, master, from Porto Bello, in ballast.

The English schooner, John, Anthony Mathey, master, from Aux Cayes, with corn and rice.

Schooner, Ambuscade, Martins, master, from St. Thomas, rum, oil and dry goods.

Launch, Alexandria, Coolman, master, from Aruba, with goat skins, cattle, turtle, corn, &c.

Schooner, Nancy, Hoyer, master, from Jamaica, with flour.

Schooner, Spite, from St. Bartholemew, provisions.

Schooner, Erin, Halek, master, from St. Bartholemew, with provisions.

Schooner, Intrepid, Turner, master, from Guadaloupe, with sugars.

Schooner, Maria, from St. Croix, rum.

Sailed—The John, Matthew, for St. Bartholemew.

Are to sail.—Lady Cockburn, for Hayte. Ambuscade for St. Thomas.—John & Henry, for Jamaica.—Chance, for the Main.

The Portuguese dragoons having fled through Majalahonda, were rallied and reformed upon the heavy dragoons of the King's German Legion, which were formed between the village and Las Royas. The German cavalry charged the enemy, although under many disadvantages, and stopped their further progress; but I am sorry to say, they suffered considerable loss, and that the Colonel Jonqueires, who commanded the brigade was taken prisoner. The left of the enemy was about two miles and a half distant, at the Puente de Ratamar, on the Guadarama river, and Colonel Ponsonby's brigade of cavalry, and brigade of infantry of the 7th division having moved forward to support the troops in advance, the enemy retired upon Majalahonda as soon as they observed these troops, and night having come on, they retired upon Alcorcon, leaving our guns at Majalahonda.

I am happy to report that the officers of the Portuguese cavalry behaved remarkably well, and shewed a good example to their men, particularly the Visconde de Barbacena, who was taken prisoner. The conduct of the brave German cavalry, I understand was excellent, as was that of Capt. M'Donald's troop of horse artillery. The light infantry battalion was not engaged.

The army moved forward yesterday morning, and its left took possession of the city of Madrid; Joseph Bonaparte having retired with the army of the centre by the roads of Toledo and Aranjuez, leaving a garrison in the Retiro.

It is impossible to describe the joy manifested by the inhabitants of Madrid upon our arrival; and I hope that the prevalence of the same sentiments of detestation of the French yoke, and of a strong desire to secure the independence of their country, which first induced them to set the example of resistance to the Usurper, will induce them to make exertions in the cause of their country, which will be more efficacious than those formerly made.

I have received no further reports of the situation of Gen. Ballasteros since the 21st of July. I have letters from Gen. Joseph O'Donnell and Gen. Roche, of the 26th of July; and the army of Murcia, under the command of the former, was defeated by Gen. D'Harispe on the 21st of July. It appears that the Spanish troops moved forward to attack General D'Harispe's posts at Castella and at Ybi; those which attacked the former were repulsed with the loss of two thousand men and two pieces of cannon; those which attacked the latter, under the command of General Roche, conducted themselves remarkably well, and covered the retreat of the troops under General O'Donnell, and afterwards effected their own retreat in good order to Alicante.

Madrid, August 15, 1812.

I have the honor to inform your Lordship, that the garrison of Retiro surrendered by capitulation yesterday; and I have now the honor to inclose a translation of the capitulation.

We invested the place completely on the evening of the 13th, and in the night, detachments of the 7th division of infantry, under the command of Major-general Hope, and the 3d division of infantry, under the command of Major-general the Hon. E. Packenham, drove the enemy's posts from the Prado and the Botanical Garden; and the works which they had constructed outside of the park-wall, and have broken through the wall in different places, they were established in the palace of the Retiro, and close to the interior of the enemy's works, inclosing the building called La China.

The troops were preparing in the morning to attack those works preparatory to the arrangements to be adopted for the attack on the interior line and building, when the Governor sent out an officer to desire to capitulate, and I granted him the honors of war, the baggage of the officers and soldiers of the garrison, as specified in the inclosed agreement.

I inclose a return of the strength of the garrison which marched out yesterday at four o'clock, on their road to Ciudad Rodrigo. We have found in the place one hundred and eighty-nine pieces of brass ordnance, in excellent condition; nine hundred barrels of powder, twenty thousand stand of arms, and considerable magazines of clothing, provisions, and ammunition.

We have likewise found the eagles of the 13th and 51st regiments, which I forward to England, to be presented to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, by my Aid-de-Camp, Major Burgh.

I see by a letter from General Ballasteros to Lieut.-General Sir R. Hill, of the 29th July, that he had been in Malaga on the 14th of that month, after an engagement with General Laval, near Coin. General Ballesteros was at Grazelena on the 29th. I have a letter from Lieut.-General Sir R. Hill of the 8th instant; and although General Drouet had been in movement for three days, it does not appear that his movements are of any importance.

I inclose returns of the killed, wounded, and missing, in the affair of the Majalahonda, on the 11th instant, and of the loss in the attack of the works of the Retiro.

This dispatch will be delivered by my Aid-de-Camp, Major Burgh, who will be able to explain any further circumstances relating to our situation; and I beg leave to recommend him to your Lordship's protection.

P. S.—Since writing this dispatch, I have received a letter of the 10th instant, from General Maitland, from Alicante, in which, that officer informs me, that he had on that day landed at that place.

TRANSLATION.

Capitulation proposed by General the Earl of Wellington, Commander in Chief of the allied army, and accepted by Colonel La Fond, Commandant of the Fort of La China, 14th August 1812.

Art. I.—The garrison shall march out of the fort with the honors of war, and shall lay down their arms on the glacis.

Art. II.—The garrison, and persons of every description in the fort, shall be prisoners of war.

Art. III.—The officers shall be allowed to retain their swords, their baggage, and their horses, according to the number allowed them by the regulations of the French army; and the soldiers shall keep their knapsacks.

Art. IV.—The magazines of the fort, of every description, shall be delivered to the officers of the respective departments, and the French Commandants of artillery, and of engineers, shall furnish lists of the contents of each depot. The plans of the fort shall also be delivered to the Commanding Officer of the British engineers.

Art. V.—This capitulation shall take place at four o'clock in the afternoon, and the gates of the fort shall be occupied by the troops of the allied army, as soon as this capitulation is ratified.

Signed on the part of General the Earl of Wellington,

FITZROY SOMERSET,

Lieut.-Colonel and Military Sec.

(Ratified) WELLINGTON.

Signed on the part of Colonel La Fond,

R. DE LA BRUNE.

This capitulation is ratified by the Colonel commanding the fort of La China,

(Signed) LA FOND.

Return of prisoners of war taken at the Fort de La China, in the Retiro, and in the General Hospital La Atocha, on the 14th August, 1812.

Total taken at the Fort—2 Colonels—4 Lieutenants—Colonels—22 Captains—35 Subalterns—7 staff officers—3 civil officers—1982 serjeants, drummers, and rank and file.

Total at the General Hospital—1 captain—5 subalterns—16 civil officers—429 serjeants, drummers, and rank and file.

N. B.—Besides the above-number, 6 rank and file British, and 6 officers and 144 rank and file Spaniards, were retaken in the fort of La China.

(signed) J. WATERS, Lieut.-Col. and A. A. G.

Return of killed and wounded, and missing of the army under the command of His Excellency General the Earl of Wellington, K. B. in an affair with the enemy's cavalry, in front of the Village of Majalahonda August, 11, 1812.

Total British loss—1 Cornet—1 serjeant—18 rank and file—12 horses, killed—2 captains—2 lieutenants—5 serjeants—36 rank and file—6 horses, wounded—1 lieutenant-colonel—1 captain—20 rank and file—44 horses, missing.

Total Portuguese loss—1 captain—2 lieutenants—30 rank and file, 11 horses, killed—2 lieutenant-colonels—1 captain—49 rank and file—5 horses, wounded—1 lieutenant-colonel—1 quarter-master of cavalry—21 rank and file—37 horses, missing.

(Signed) J. WATERS, Lieut.-Col. and A. A. G.

Return of killed and wounded of the army under the Command of His Excellency General the Earl of Wellington, K. B. in the attack on the Retiro, on the evening of the 13th August, 1812.

Total British loss—1 rank and life, killed—9 rank and file, wounded.

Total Portuguese loss—7 rank and file, wounded.

(Signed) J. WATERS, Lieut.-Col. and A. A. G.

Return of ordnance, ammunition, and stores found in the Redoubt of La China, on the capitulation on the 14th instant.

ARMY OF THE CENTRE.

Total pieces of ordnance—131.

21,832 round shot of sorts—1148 shells, empty, of sorts—4703 case shot of sorts—1804 shells for howitzer, of sorts—165 empty granades—26,538 balls, cast iron sorts—149 gun and howitzer carriages—ditto six beds for mortars ditto—27,677 musquets of several kinds, serviceable and repairable—1 carbine—123 musquetoons—453 pistols—total small arms, 23,254—6736 bayonets of sorts—1430 swords of ditto—29 spontoons—270 powder barrels—5191 cartridges of sorts, filled for guns—2,653,299 ball cartridges—6000 blank ditto for exercise—294,974—flints 209,160 lbs. lead of sorts—

6 pontoons of wood, with carriages and apparatus—76 caissons of different descriptions—83 waggons, carts, forges, and other carriages.

ARMY OF PORTUGAL.

Total pieces of ordnance—8.

1089 round shot of sorts—254 case shot of sorts—233 grape shot of sorts—14 gun and howitzer carriages, cast-iron sorts 240 powder barrels—2614 cartridges of sorts, filled for guns—total average of powder, near 700 barrels—761,520 ball cartridges—40,060 flints—336 lbs. lead of sorts.

(Signed) W. ROBE, Lt.-Col. and Com. of the Royal Art.

(Signed) E. WEAVER, Commiss. and Paym. Ord. Dep. To His Excellency the Earl of Wellington.

K. B. Commander of the Forces.

Return of French engineer stores, taken in the Works of the Retiro, Madrid, August 14, 1812.

1922 spades and shovels, 170 pick-axes, 998 bill-hooks, 400 hoes, 313 felling axes, 189 hand hatchets, 80 saws, 40 planes, 30 augurs, 50 chisels, 70 baskets, 30 wheel-barrows, 1 fire-engine, 30 hand-barrows, 12 tackles, 5 forges complete, 8000 sand bags. A quantity of iron, steel, lead, timber, coal, and all smaller articles necessary in the construction of works.

J. F. BERGOYNE, Capt. Royal Eng. and Lt.-Col.

A true copy.

Signed JOHN WATERS, Lieut.-Col. and A. A.

LONDON, September 2, 1812.

Reinforcements for Marmont's army are passing into Spain with all possible expedition.

A letter from Riga, dated August 3 says „A French corps which had pushed forward to surround this city, has been driven back to Mittua. The richest families in Russia give daily striking proofs of their love to their country, so that neither ability nor good will is wanting to oppose the enemy.—The measures taken against such Frenchmen as are found in Russia are very severe. The French Playhouse at St. Petersburg has been entirely shut up, and the actors dismissed, and sent to different provinces.”

Bonaparte threatened to visit the bankers at Moscow; and it seems that he has already received a check!

September 4, 1812.

The King of Denmark is said to have been apprized by the French Minister at Copenhagen, of a plot between Sweden, Russia, and Great Britain, to take possession of the island of Zealand. This, it would seem, was one of the objects of the expedition fitting out from Sweden. However, from the French papers received, we find, that Bonaparte, apprehending a descent from this expedition on Pomerania, or some other part of the Baltic, has sent Marshall Augereau, Duke of Castiglione, to take the command in that quarter, and to provide for the safety of the adjoining States. If the Swedish preparations affect nothing more, even this is a most favorable diversion in favour of the Russian arms.

September 9, 1812.

We have received Paris papers to the 6th inst. containing the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Bulletins of Napoleon's grand army, dated from Smolensko the 21st and 23d of August. These Bulletins and the reports annexed to them, furnish us with the details of several battles previous to the occupation of Smolensko, which place the French entered at two o'clock in the morning of the 18th August; the Russians, who had till midnight defended the works, which could scarcely be called fortifications, having retired, first setting fire to the town. The French boast of having taken in Smolensko 200 pieces of cannon. They pretend that the Russian Commanders had, in the first instance actually evacuated the place, and marched a considerable way from it without fighting, when, in consequence of a special order from the Emperor to give battle rather than abandon it, they returned, and maintained themselves vigorously till they were driven out in the manner described. The Fourteenth Bulletin begins with a description of Smolensko, and a recapitulation of some circumstances calculated to enhance the value of the capture. It includes an account of some hard-fought affairs between the Russian General, Prince Wittgenstein, and the French corps under Oudinot, on the 16th and 17th August, near Polotsk when the Russians are said to have been repulsed with the loss of 1000 men killed and wounded, and 500 prisoners. The French acknowledge a loss of one-third of that amount wounded. After the capture of Smolensko, the French pursued the retreating Russians on the 19th, and came up with a division of the rear-guard, consisting of about five or 6000 men, who were reinforced in proportion to the numbers of which they were pressed, till 40,000 were engaged on a side. This is called the battle of Valentina, and appears to be the most general affair that has taken place. It is evident that the Russians still adhere to their system, and have in this, as well as in every prior instance, succeeded in avoiding to commit the fate of their em-

pire to the issue of a single conflict; although they fight vigorously in their retreat, and make the French pay dearly for every foot of ground that they gain.

September 17, 1812.

It is generally reported, that it is the intention of the Government to dissolve Parliament immediately after the next quarterly report of the Queen's Council, upon the state of His Majesty's health. His Majesty having recently suffered another very severe paroxysm, which lasted thirty-six hours, it is concluded that no hope can be entertained of his recovery, and hence it is rumoured, that in the event of His Majesty's demise, the dissolution which then follows by law, may be dispensed with by a special provision of the new Parliament, regarding the settled incapacity of the King as a death in law, and to be acted upon as a natural decease. We think it highly probable that Parliament may be dissolved, and that a new election may take place in the month of October.

OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS FROM THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

Head-quarters, 14th July, O. S. 26th July.

The first army has taken a strong position near Witepsk, and during their march, even from Polozak, the enemy never dared to attack a single corps of which it is composed. The small skirmishes of the van-guard along the banks of the Dwina, across which our cavalry frequently swam for the purpose of seizing the enemy's piquets, have always been to our advantage. After the arrival, it was necessary to make strong reconnaissances decisive with regard to the junction with the first. In the night between the 13th and 14th, the Commander in Chief, who had received information of patroles of the enemy having shewn themselves on the road to Bischenkowitschi, gave orders to Count OSTERMAN TOLSTOC to direct his march towards that place, with his corps. Scarcely had Count Tolstoc advanced three wersts, before he fell in with the enemy's videttes. Two videttes were taken, but the third escaped, and gave the alarm to the French van-guard. These caused immediately a regiment to march out against the two hussar squadrons of the guard, which were in front of this column. They charged the enemy, and immediately overthrew him, out pursuing with too much ardour they fell in with the whole of the enemy's cavalry, by whom they were pursued close in with our infantry. Count OSTERMAN then continued his motions, and found the enemy drawn up in order of battle at no great distance from Ostovno. The battle commenced with a cannonade, which continued several hours. Both sides fought with obstinacy. The greater number of warriors were on the French side, but the valour of our troops overcame every thing. We have not only remained masters of the field of battle, but have even pursued the enemy four wersts beyond his position. So hot an engagement cannot be expected to have been without some loss. According to the reports of the prisoners, the enemy's loss has been very considerable. They assure us, that the KING of NAPLES commanded in person, and that the Viceroy of Italy was wounded.

Head-quarters, July 18 (30th), 1812.

The corps of General Doctrow, who had directions to observe the motions of the enemy in the vicinity of Bischen Kolwitsch, where a part of their troops were discovered marching towards him began to make motions, which retarded their progress. It was therefore necessary of suffer them to pass the Dwina in order to join the army which was stationed near Witepsk on the left bank of that river. In order to perform this the Commander in Chief deemed it necessary to confine him back to these places, where on the 13th instant, Count Osterman had stopped him, with a much smaller force than that of the enemy. Count Konownezyn was ordered on this service. He replaced the corps of Osterman, and his division was the whole of the 14th, continually engaged. Our troops evinced equal valour and constancy.

The enemy did not gain a single foot of ground of them. Lieut.-General Konownezyn repulsed all their attacks, and did not leave the spot till night, when he received orders from the Commander in Chief to take the position ordained to him for a general battle. Meanwhile General Doctrow passed the Dwina, and arrived at the same place. The whole rear-guard came under the command of Major-General Count Von Pahlen, they were drawn up at ten wersts distance from the head position, and the enemy was reported to be bearing towards them. In the interim the Commander in Chief received intelligence by a courier from Prince Bagretion, who informed him, that having been advised of the approach of the first army, and finding Mogilen already in the possession of the enemy's troops, he had, for the preservation of his troops, altered the direction of his march to Pisch, and had taken the road to Moteslaw and Smolensko; that this van-guard had, on the preceding day, had an engagement, in which Lieut.-Gen. Kajewsky had defeated the van-guard of Marshal Davoust's army, and forced it to retreat a distance of 12 wersts. This